

*J. B. brought this + the other.*

THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER Thursday, Nov. 16, 1967 23A

# Tar Heel Astronaut Adds Another Space Innovation

CHAPEL HILL — (UPI) — For Dr. William Thornton, an astronaut from Faison, N. C., going to the moon means "getting there and bringing a piece of it back."

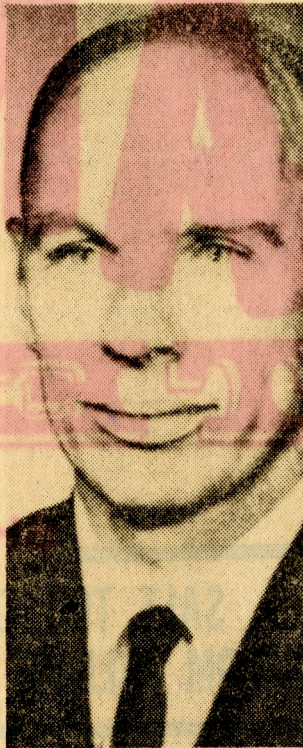
But Thornton, a physician who was named a scientist-astronaut in September, has other things to worry about at the present — like learning to fly a jet.

Thornton was graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received a medical degree from the university in 1963. He returned here this week for two days of astronomy training at Morehead Planetarium.

His specialty is space medicine. "The body that man is taking into space is the same body man has been developing on earth for millions of years. Space medicine is really not unlike earth medicine," he said.

But while space medicine deals with the same human body, Thornton has found that it requires some completely different methods of application.

"One of our main problems has been how to weigh something when everything in space



**William Thornton**  
... Learning To Fly

is weightless," the scientist-astronaut said.

He said astronauts returning from orbit usually lost weight

and said that this could become a serious problem on extended flights if there was no way to keep track of astronauts' weight.

Thornton's response to the problem was to invent an instrument which measures mass rather than weight. He currently has an application for a patent pending on the device.

It's only one of a number of space-related innovations already ready to Thornton's credit.

Thornton is currently participating in a five-month introductory astronaut training program that will be followed by almost a year of Air Force flight school. His first space flight is at least two years away.

## 29-Cent Error Grew And Grew

SAN FRANCISCO — (UPI) — Richard F. Lilly, 28, an auto agency bookkeeper, will tell you that it is the little things in life that mean so much.

He was indicted by a grand jury Monday after a 29-cent error prompted inspectors to make a closer study of the books. Inspectors said it disclosed a \$50,000 shortage.

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